COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

Tammy Hussin (Bar No. 155290) Of Counsel Lemberg & Associates LLC 6408 Merlin Dr., Suite #100 Carlsbad, CA 92011 Telephone (855) 301-2100 ext. 5514 thussin@lemberglaw.com 5 6 Lemberg & Associates, LLC 1100 Summer Street Stamford, CT 06905 Telephone: (203) 653-2250 Facsimile: (203) 653-3424 10 Attorneys for Plaintiff, 11 Linda Jimenez 12 13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 14 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 15 WESTERN DIVISION 16 CV11-05393PZ Case No.: • 17 Linda Jimenez, 18 19 COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES Plaintiff, 1. VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT 20 COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, VS. 21 15 U.S.C. § 1692 ET. SEQ; 2. VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT 22 Legal Recovery Law Offices, Inc; and COLLECTION PRATICES ACT, DOES 1-10, inclusive, 23 CAL.CIV.CODE § 1788 ET. SEQ. 24 Defendants. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED 25 26 27 28

For this Complaint, Plaintiff, Linda Jimenez, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This action arises out of Defendants' repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq. ("FDCPA"), and the invasions of Plaintiff's personal privacy by Defendant and its agents in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.
 - 2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendants transact business here and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred here.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff, Linda Jimenez (hereafter "Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing at 821 Burchett Street Glendale, California, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 5. Defendant, Legal Recovery Law Offices, Inc. ("LRS"), is a California business entity with an address of 5030 Camino De La Siesta, Suite 340, San Diego, California 92108-3118, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

- 6. Does 1-10 (the "Collectors") are individual collectors employed by LRS and whose identities are currently unknown to Plaintiff. One or more of the Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.
 - 7. LRS at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

A. The Debt

- 8. The Plaintiff allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the "Debt") to Washington Mutual (the "Creditor").
- 9. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 10. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to LRS for collection, or LRS was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 11. Defendants attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

B. <u>LRS Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics</u>

12. Within the last year, LRS contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt.

- 13. LRS contacted Plaintiff at an excessive and harassing rate, sometimes calling Plaintiff two to three times per day, for many days in a row. Many of LRS's calls are automated.
- 14. LRS contacted Plaintiff at her place of employment. Plaintiff advised LRS that calls to her workplace were inconvenient and against the policy of her employer and instructed LRS to stop contacting her there.
- 15. Despite acknowledging receipt of the instruction to cease all calls to Plaintiff's workplace, LRS continued to contact Plaintiff there. During each contact, Plaintiff again requested that LRS cease calls to workplace.
- 16. Plaintiff sent a letter to LRS requesting that LRS provide her with verification of the Debt. LRS did not provide any such verification and continued to thereafter contact Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt.

C. <u>Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages</u>

- 17. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct.
- 18. As a direct consequence of Defendants' acts, practices and conduct,
 Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, anxiety, emotional distress, fear, frustration and embarrassment.

19. Defendants' conduct was so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond all possible bounds of decency, and to be regarded as atrocious, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community.

<u>COUNT I</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT</u> 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 20. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 21. Defendants contacted Plaintiff at a place and during a time known to be inconvenient for Plaintiff, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(1).
- 22. Defendants contacted Plaintiff at her place of employment, knowing that Plaintiff's employer prohibited such communications, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(3).
- 23. Defendants caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged Plaintiff in telephone conversations, with the intent to annoy and harass, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5).
- 24. Defendants continued collection efforts even though the debt had not been verified, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(b).
- 25. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
 - 26. Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendants' violations.

<u>COUNT II</u> <u>VIOLATION OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION</u> PRACTICES ACT, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788 et seq.

- 27. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 28. The Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, California Civil Code section 1788 et seq. ("Rosenthal Act") prohibits unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the collection of consumer debts.
- 29. LRS, in the regular course of business, engages in debt collection and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).
- 30. Defendants caused a telephone to ring repeatedly and engaged Plaintiff in continuous conversations with an intent to annoy Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d).
- 31. Defendants communicated with Plaintiff with such frequency as to be considered harassment, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(e).
- 32. Defendants failed to comply with the provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq., in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.13(e).
- 33. Defendants did not comply with the provisions of Title 15, Section 1692 of the United States Code, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17.
 - 34. Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendants' violations.

<u>COUNT III</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT –</u> 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.

- 35. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 36. Without prior consent, Defendants contacted Plaintiff by means of automatic telephone calls or prerecorded messages at a cellular telephone or pager in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 37. Without prior consent, Defendants made telephone calls to Plaintiff's residential telephone line using an artificial or prerecorded voice to deliver a message without the prior express consent of Plaintiff in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(B).
- 38. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
 - 39. Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendants' violations.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against Defendants:

- A. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- B. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A);
- C. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§ 1692k(a)(3);

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- D. Actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a);
- E. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for knowingly and willfully committing violations pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b);
- F. Statutory damages pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) & (C);
- G. Actual damages for the all damages including emotional distress suffered as a result of the intentional, reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations and intentional, reckless, and/or negligent invasions of privacy in an amount to be determined at trial for Plaintiff;
- H. Punitive damages; and
- I. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

DATED: June 29, 2011

By: /s/ Tammy Hussin
Tammy Hussin, Of Counsel
Lemberg & Associates
Attorney for Plaintiff, Linda Jimenez

Tammy Hussin (Bar No. 155290) Of Counsel Lemberg & Associates LLC 6408 Merlin Dr., Suite #100 Carlsbad, CA 92011 Telephone (855) 301-2100 ext. 5514

	DISTRICT COURT TOF CALIFORNIA
	CASE NUMBER
Linda Jimenez PLAINTIFF(S)	CV11-05393PZ
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Legal Recovery Law Offices, Inc; and DOES 1-10, inclusive,	
DEFENDANT(S).	SUMMONS
must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached ☐ counterclaim ☐ cross-claim or a motion under Rule or motion must be served on the plaintiff's attorney, Taraddress is 6408 Merlin Dr., Suite #100, Carlsbad, CA 9	12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer mmy Hussin, of counsel Lemberg & Associates, whose 2011. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be laint. You also must file your answer or motion with the Clerk, U.S. District Court
Dated:	By:
	(Seal of the Court)

[Use 60 days if the defendant is the United States or a United States agency, or is an officer or employee of the United States. Allowed 60 days by Rule 12(a)(3)].

SUMMONS

CV-01A (12/07)

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. CIVIL COVER SHEET

		CIVIE CO.				
I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself □) Linda Jimenez			DEFENDANTS Legal Recovery Law Office	s, Inc.		
		-				
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.)			Attorneys (If Known)			
Tammy Hussin, Of Counsel, 6408 Merlin Dr., Suite #100, Carlsbad, CA 9						
Lemberg & Associates, 1100	0 Summer St, 3rd Floor, Stamford	1, C1 06903	••	•		
			CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES - For Diversity Cases Only (Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant.)			
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	rnment Plaintiff 🗾 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		PTF □ 1	DEF ☐ 1 Incorporated or P of Business in thi		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		nship Citizen of And	other State	☐ 2 Incorporated and of Business in Ar	Principal Place □ 5 □ 5 oother State	
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IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one	box only.)					
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V. REQUESTED IN COMPLA	INT: JURY DEMAND: Y				~ / /	
CLASS ACTION under F.R.C.F			MONEY DEMANDED IN CO			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite	the U.S. Civil Statute under which	h you are filing and w	rite a brief statement of cause. I	Oo not cite jurisdictional sta	tutes unless diversity.)	
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place	an X in one box only.)					
	CONTRACT □ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine	TORTS PERSONAL INJUI □ 310 Airplane	TORTS PERSONAL PROPERTY	PRISONER PETITIONS □ 510 Motions to	LABOR □ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	
☐ 430 Banks and Banking	□ 130 Miller Act	□ 315 Airplane Proc Liability	uct □ 370 Other Fraud	Vacate Sentence	☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	
	□ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of	☐ 320 Assault, Libe		Habeas Corpus ☐ 530 General	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.	
☐ 460 Deportation	Overpayment &	Slander □ 330 Fed. Employe		☐ 535 Death Penalty	Reporting &	
☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt	Tudament	Liability	□ 385 Property Damage Product Liability	☐ 540 Mandamus/ Other	Disclosure Act ☐ 740 Railway Labor Act	
Organizations	□ 151 Medicare Act	☐ 340 Marine ☐ 345 Marine Produ		☐ 550 Civil Rights	☐ 790 Other Labor	
480 Consumer Credit	152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	158	☐ 555 Prison Condition FORFEITURE /	Litigation ☐ 791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	
☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 810 Selective Service		□ 350 Motor Vehicl □ 355 Motor Vehicl	e ID 423 Withdrawal 28	PENALTY	Security Act	
☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/	☐ 153 Recovery of	Product Liab	lity USC 157	☐ 610 Agriculture	PROPERTY RIGHTS	
Exchange ☐ 875 Customer Challenge 12	Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	☐ 360 Other Person	CIVIL RIGHTS □ 441. Voting	☐ 620 Other Food & Drug	□ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent	
USC 3410		Injury ☐ 362 Personal Inju	ry- 442 Employment	☐ 625 Drug Related	□ 840 Trademark	
	☐ 190 Other Contract	Med Malprad	1	Seizure of Property 21 USC	SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff)	
☐ 891 Agricultural Act ☐ 892 Economic Stabilization	☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	☐ 365 Personal Inju Product Liab	` ¹	881	□ 862 Black Lung (923)	
	☐ 196 Franchise	☐ 368 Asbestos Per	sonal 445 American with	☐ 630 Liquor Laws	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW	
□ 893 Environmental Matters	REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation	Injury Produc Liability	t Disabilities - Employment	☐ 640 R.R. & Truck ☐ 650 Airline Regs	(405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI	
_ 05 :	☐ 220 Foreclosure	IMMIGRATIO	☐ 446 American with	☐ 660 Occupational	□ 865 RSI (405(g))	
☐ 900 Appeal of Fee Determi-	□ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 462 Naturalizatio	22.0000	Safety /Health	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	
	☐ 240 Torts to Land	Application ☐ 463 Habeas Corp	Other us- ☐ 440 Other Civil	□ 690 Other	□ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	
	☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	Alien Detain	ee Rights		□ 871 IRS-Third Party 26	
State Statutes		☐ 465 Other Immig Actions	ration		USC 7609	
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EOD OFFICE USE ONLY. Case Number:						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Case Number:AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.						
AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.						

Page 1 of 2

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has the structure of the struct			d dismissed, remanded or closed? ≝No □ Yes		
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Have an If yes, list case number(s):	ny cases been prev	iously filed in this court that	t are related to the present case? WNO UYes		
□ B. Ca	ise from the same II for determinatio r other reasons wo	or closely related transaction of the same or substantiall ould entail substantial duplic	ns, happenings, or events; or ly related or similar questions of law and fact; or ation of labor if heard by different judges; or and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.		
IX. VENUE: (When completing the fo					
 (a) List the County in this District; Ca □ Check here if the government, its a 	lifornia County ou agencies or employ	utside of this District; State i yees is a named plaintiff. If	f other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides. this box is checked, go to item (b).		
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
Los Angeles					
(b) List the County in this District; Ca ☐ Check here if the government, its	ulifornia County ou agencies or employ	ntside of this District; State i	f other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides. If this box is checked, go to item (c).		
County in this District:*		-	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
			San Diego		
(c) List the County in this District; Ca Note: In land condemnation cas	alifornia County ou es, use the locatio	utside of this District; State in of the tract of land invol-	if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.		
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country		
Los Angeles					
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* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernard Note: In land condemnation cases, use	ino, Riverside, Ve the location of the	entura, Santa Barbara, or t tract of land involved	San Luis Obispo Counties		
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (O	R PRO PER):/;	s/ Tammy Huss	sin Date 6/29/2011		
or other papers as required by law	This form, approv	ed by the Judicial Conference	rmation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings are of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed ting the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)		
Key to Statistical codes relating to Soc	ial Security Cases:				
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of	of Cause of Action		
861 	НІА	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))			
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)			
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))			
. 864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.			
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))			